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NPIC/TSG/RED-267/70
30 October 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Engineering Support Division, TSG

SUBJECT : Disposition of the Sensitometric Sheet Film
Processor for Dry Silver

1. I am informed that ESD/TEB has received the subject processor for test and evaluation. Apparently the disposition of this equipment, which was developed under NPIC's R&D Program, has not been defined. This is to request that this Processor be assigned to the Advanced Technology Branch of RED upon completion of T&E.

2. An RED/ATB function includes the establishment of standards for measuring the performance characteristics of photographic materials. This includes unconventional materials such as Dry Silver for which very few - if any - standards exist. We wish to employ the subject processor to obtain reproducible processing in order that we may properly investigate photographic variables, performance characteristics and archival qualities of Dry Silver materials pursuant to defining performance standards and standard test methods.

3. Furthermore, the heat processing capability of the subject processor renders it potentially versatile for the experimental processing of other heat developed unconventional materials such as: dry diazo, Kalvar and certain free radical formulations. This relates to another of ATB's functions namely, to assess the feasibility of applying new photo materials and processes to fulfilling Center requirements. This application of the processor represents a bonus capability: it should have no adverse effect on the precision processing of Dry Silver.

4. To discharge the above noted functions, RED/ATB will require a relatively sophisticated heat processing capability. Acquisition of such equipment was planned for FY-72; however,

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the arrival of the subject processor holds prospect for initiating in-house R&D much sooner than originally planned, possibly as much as 6 months to 1 year sooner. A downward revision may be possible for our FY-72 fiscal estimate for such equipment, depending, of course, upon the results of ESD/TEB's forthcoming evaluation.



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Chief, Research & Engineering Division, TSG
NPIC

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